

Historic Nowra Bridge repurposing

Community update

November 2024



Australian Government

BUILDING AUSTRALIA



Image: Old Nowra Bridge

Work will soon start on repairing and repurposing the historic Nowra Bridge

Finishing work was completed last month for the new Nowra Bridge project. Our focus will now shift to repairing and repurposing the historic bridge into a pedestrian and cyclist path for future use by the community.

The repurposing of the historic bridge is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW governments as part of the Nowra Bridge project.

In this update

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Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.



Image: The new Nowra Bridge at dusk

Finishing work for the new Nowra Bridge is complete

What we’ve been doing

In the last six months, we have carried out the following work on the project:

- Landscaping across the project has been finished and landscape maintenance is underway
- Completing footpaths across the project.
- Removing the site compounds and restoring ancillary sites
- Removing excess spoil from the Bolong Road stockpile site
- Removing and replacing contaminated mulch from several locations across the project area.

Operational noise assessment

In 2018, the project’s Review of Environmental Factors predicted the operational road traffic noise emissions for the new bridge.

To validate the initial assessment and verify compliance with relevant environmental obligations, we have completed a post-construction noise assessment for the new bridge. A copy of the report is available on the project website at nswroads.work/nowrabridge



Image: Landscaping and footpaths completed

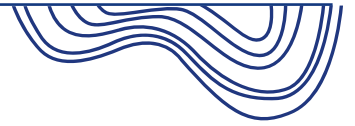


Image: Pedestrian safety work at Pleasant Way



Thank you to the community

We want to thank the entire community for their patience and support over the last four years of construction for the Nowra Bridge project



Work will soon start on the historic Nowra Bridge

Repairing and repurposing of the historic bridge will be carried out in four stages, with the full program of work expected to take around two to three years to complete, weather permitting.

The old bridge has worked hard over the last few decades and is now in need of a lot of time and care to bring it back to its former glory and preserve it for years to come.

The work required to repair and repurpose the bridge is very detailed and labour intensive. Completing the work to a high standard will take a significant amount of time but it will ensure the longevity of the bridge.

What work we will be doing

The first stage of work will involve:

Repairing the end truss lattices

From an elevated work platform on the bridge deck, our crews will remove the lattice elements for repair or replacement. This work will also involve drilling out and removing the rivets, which will be replaced with similar sized bolts.

The condition of each lattice piece will be assessed once removed to determine if they are suitable for repair and reuse. Suitable components will be taken off site for repair before being reinstalled. Any component that is not in a satisfactory condition will be replaced.



Image: End truss lattices

Truss repairs

One of the bridge trusses has sustained damage from a previous vehicle impact and will be repaired by installing a new steel plate. Repairs will be carried out from an elevated work platform on the bridge deck.

Repairs to the concrete bridge deck

Cracked and damaged sections of the concrete bridge deck will be removed using road saws and jackhammers and replaced with new concrete.

The steel deck underneath will also be cleaned and treated, and reinforcement will be installed prior to the new concrete being poured.

Removal of the old handrail connections

Many of the connections between the old steel handrail and the bridge truss are severely corroded and are damaging the truss.

We will remove around 300 of these corroded connections using grinders and sanders. Any related corrosion to the truss will be treated, and we will fill and seal any holes before painting.

Replacement of rosette style diagonal bracing washers

We will remove, fabricate, and replace around 100 damaged rosette style diagonal bracing washers from the truss.

New rosette washers will be fabricated prior to the removal of the damaged washers. These new washers will be a similar style to the existing.



Images: rosette style diagonal bracing washers



Image: Cyclists on the old Nowra Bridge

When we will be working

The first stage of work will start **Monday 11 November 2024** and is expected to take around six months, weather permitting. Work will be carried out during the following standard working hours:

- 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday
- 8am to 1pm, Saturday.

We do not anticipate any out of hours work will be required, however the community will be updated should this change.

Upcoming work and next steps

Future stages of work will involve removing the attached cantilevered footpath, prioritised repainting of the bridge, and installation of lighting and other additional features. Further details about this work will be shared with the community as work progresses.

What this means for you


The historic Nowra Bridge has been closed to road traffic and pedestrians since the new Nowra Bridge opened to traffic in February 2023.

Street lighting on the old bridge will be switched off while work is underway. For the safety of the community, access to the bridge will remain closed for the duration of the repair and repurposing work.


Temporary fencing, signage, and security cameras will be in place to discourage pedestrians from accessing the bridge.

Contact us


If you have any questions or would like to know more about the Historic Nowra Bridge repurposing work, please contact the project team:



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If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call us on **1800 555 638**.